

Message Text

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ATTN: MR. ANDREWS

FOLLOWING REPEATS BUCHAREST 3557 ACTION DEPT JULY 26TH

QUOTE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, RO, OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJ: US/ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN ENERGY R&D IN CONTEXT OF
PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

REF: A) BUCH 3553 B) BUCH 3500

1. SUMMARY: DURING JULY 24 CALL ON NCST PRESIDENT IOAN
URSU (REF A) AMBASSADOR AND SCIATT WERE TOLD GOR DETERMIN-
ATION TO MOVE TOWARD ENERGY AGREEMENTS WITH THE US WOULD
BE REFLECTED IN FORTHCOMING PRESIDENTIAL TALKS. URSU SAID
ROMANIA IS SEEKING A NETWORK OF UNDERSTANDINGS INVOLVING THE
NCST AND THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY, AND ERDA
AND NRC. IN ADDITION, TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THESE AGREEMENTS,
A SUTIALE ENABLING DOCUMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT
PERMITTING GOR PURCHASE OF UNSPECIFIED NUCLEAR COMPONENTS

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AND AFFECTED BY US LAW. END SUMMARY

2. IN COMPANY OF SPECIAL ADVISOR ION MANZATU, SCNE VICE PRESIDENT RODEANU AND NUCLEAR REGULATORY CHIEF OLARU, URSU ASKED WHETHER A WRITTEN REPLY FROM ERDA WAS NOT EXPECTED TO NCST COOPERATIVE PROPOSALS FORWARDED FEBRUARY 7 THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, HE ACCEPTED OUR INTERPRETATION THAT MARCH 21 TALKS BETWEEN NCST REP MATACHE AND ERDA INTERNATIONAL OFFICIALS CONSTITUTED OFFICIAL REPLY TO ROMANIAN INITIATIVES AND FORMED BASIS ON WHICH GOR MUST PROVIDE MUCH MORE DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION BY ERDA TECHNICAL EXPERTS. IN THIS REGARD, AMBASSADOR EXPRESSED REGRET THAT MANZATU HAD BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE PLANNED TRIP TO US IN JUNE IN ORDER TO FOLLOW UP ON MATACHE TALKS DURING WHICH ERDA HAD ANTICIPATED TECHNICAL REVIEW OF GOR PROPOSALS. URSU SAID HE DOWNPLAYED IMPORTANCE OF VISIT AT THE TIME SINCE HE HAD NOT REALIZED THAT MUCH DEPENDED ON MANZATU TRIP. MANZATU WOULD BE ABLE TO GO TO THE US IN THE FALL IF IT WERE THAT IMPORTANT. IN THE MEANWHILE HE SAID THAT ROMANIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAD ISSUED GOR INVITATION TO ERDA AND NRC DELEGATION TO CONDUCT TALKS ON NUCLEAR ENERGY PROPOSALS IN BUCHAREST DURING EARLY AUGUST OR LATER AND THAT INVITATION HAD BEEN ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE. BECAUSE OF OTHER COMMITMENTS VISIT WOULD HAVE TO TAKE PLACE IN OCTOBER IF IT COULD NOT BE FITTED INTO EARLY AUGUST PERIOD. URSU ASKED WHETHER IT WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE TO HAVE ERDA NON-NUCLEAR EXPERT ADDED TO THIS GROUP. SCIATT SAID HE THOUGHT IT STILL MADE MORE SENSE TO HAVE MANZATU GO TO THE US SINCE HE WOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH MUCH WIDER GROUP THERE ON WHOLE RANGE OF ENERGY COOPERATION POSSIBILITIES. PLEASE ADVISE NRC/ERDA PLANS AND THINKING.

3. RODEANU MADE MAJOR POINT OF GOR DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADIANS ON PURCHASE OF CANDU NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS AND ITS IMPORTANCE TO ROMANIAN ENERGY DEVELOPMENT PLANS. OF COURSE, CONTINUED TALKS WOULD INVOLVE A NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AGREEMENT WITH THE US AND URSU SAID THIS TOPIC WOULD BE RAISED DURING PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT SINCE PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL WOULD BE REQUIRED UNDER US LAWS. HE ADDED GOR WAS ALSO SEEKING A GENERAL AGREEMENT ON ENERGY R&D BETWEEN NCST AND ERDA, AND A SEPARATE NUCLEAR ENERGY AGREEMENT, PROBABLY BETWEEN SCNE ON THE ONE SIDE, AND NRC LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND THE NUCLEAR ENERGY SECTIONS OF ERDA ON THE OTHER. HE THOUGHT COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING PRESIDENTIAL TALKS SHOULD INCLUDE STATEMENTS ABOUT S&T COOPERATION GENERALLY, AND MORE SPECIFIC REMARKS ON ENERGY R&D AND NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION.

4. IT WAS AGREED SCIATT WOULD MEET WITH OLARU WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS FOR DETAILED BACKGROUND OF ROMANIAN THINKING ON ABOVE ITEMS.

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